

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 04006 190725Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----110643 190811Z /10

R 190615Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2389

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

SECRET AMMAN 4006

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, EAID, JO, US, IS

SUBJECT: MAQARIN WATER RIGHTS

REF: A) AMMAN 3967, B) AMMAN 3961, C) STATE 160126

1. I MET JULY 18 WITH CROWN PRINCE, JVA HEAD

OMAR ABDULLAH AND NPC PRESIDENT ODEH.

2. CROWN PRINCE EXPLAINED PAPER IS ACCEPTABLE TO JORDAN. HE INDICATED TWO CONCERNS. FIRST, JORDAN, IN ABSENCE OF WEST BANK SETTLEMENT COULD NOT NOW AGREE TO PROVIDE WATER TO WEST BANK. SECONDLY, JORDAN DID NOT WANT PRESENT PAPER (EVEN AS A U.S. DOCUMENT) TO BE FORMALLY SUBMITTED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY WHERE PERSONNEL NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE PROCEEDINGS WOULD DEAL WITH IT AND WHERE IT WOULD PROBABLY LEAK AND TURN INTO A MAJOR POLITICAL ISSUE.

3. IN REPLY I INDICATED THAT PARAGRAPH ON WEST BANK (PARA C OF WORKING PAPER) CAREFULLY DRAWN TO AVOID JORDANIAN COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE WATER TO SECRET

SECRET

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WEST BANK NOW. SECONDLY, IF JORDAN'S PRESENT ORAL AGREEMENT TO PAPER COULD BE MATCHED BY SIMILAR ISRAELI RESPONSE, ALL WE WOULD ASK FOR IS WRITTEN LETTER OF RECEIPT BY CROWN PRINCE IF THAT WAS WHAT JORDAN WANTED, FOR WORKING PAPER. OUR ORAL UNDERSTANDING WOULD BE THAT ALL PARTIES WOULD KNOW THAT SUCH A RECEIPT FROM BOTH SIDES

WOULD INDICATE THEIR ACCEPTANCE OF THE VALIDITY OF THE U.S. WORKING PAPER. CROWN PRINCE SAID THIS WAS FINE.

4. I ASKED ABOUT WORDING CHANGES. OMAR ABDULLAH SAID HE WOULD GIVE THESE TO US, (HE IMPLIED ALONG LINES DISCUSSED EARLIER) WITHIN NEXT 24 HOURS.

5. WE WILL FORWARD PROPOSED WORDING CHANGES, WHICH WE EXPECT WILL BE TECHNICAL AND CLARIFYING, AS SOON AS RECEIVED HERE.

6. WE HOPE PROPOSED METHOD OF PROCEEDING (PARA 3) WILL BE SATISFACTORY.

7. SUBSEQUENT TO DICTATING ABOVE, I MET WITH KING HUSSEIN AND BRIEFED HIM ON THE WORKING PAPER. HE SAID HE HAD NO OBJECTION TO GOING AHEAD AS INDICATED. HE FELT THE PAPER WOULD BE USEFUL IN DETERMINING THE ATTITUDE OF THE NEW ISRAELI GOVERNMENT TOWARD A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM.

PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Decapton Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decapton Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Reference:** 77 AMMAN 3967, 77 AMMAN 3961, 77 STATE 160126  
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**TAGS:** PBOR, EAID, JO, US, IS  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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